

Claims:

1. A method of facilitating access to a remote server comprising the steps of:  
establishing a two-way wireless interface between a portable device and a local area node  
coupled to the remote server;  
communicating terms data to the portable device including terms for establishing an interface between the local area node and the remote server in response thereto;  
sending an acceptance signal from the portable device to the local node in response to the terms data; and  
10 relaying information between the portable device and the remote terminal through the local node area in response to the acceptance signal.
2. The method according to claim 1 wherein the terms data requires a user of the portable device to agree to perform an act or omission not related to said step of relaying of information between the portable device and the remote terminal.  
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3. The method according to claim 1 wherein the terms data requires a user of the portable device to interact with an advertisement presented to the user on the portable device.
4. The method according to claim 1 wherein the portable device includes profile information indicative of the portable device and the terms data requires communication of the profile information from the portable device to the local node.  
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5. The method according to claim 1 wherein the portable device includes profile information indicative of a user of the portable device and the terms data requires communication of the personality information from the portable device to the local node.  
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6. The method according to claim 1 wherein the terms data is communicated from the local area node to the portable device.

7. The method according to claim 1 further comprising the step of terminating said step of relaying in response to an amount of information relayed between the portable device and the remote terminal exceeding a predetermined amount.

- 5 8. The method according to claim 1 further comprising the steps of:  
communicating second terms data to the portable device including terms for continuing the interface between the local node and the remote server in response to an amount of information relayed between the portable device and the remote terminal exceeding a predetermined amount;
- 10 sending a second acceptance signal from the portable device to the local area node in response to the second terms data; and  
continuing said step of relaying information between the portable device and remote terminal through the local area node in response to the second acceptance signal.

15 9. The method according to claim 1 wherein the two-way wireless interface is established using a first wireless frequency spectrum and the method further comprises the steps of:

transmitting signals from a wide area node to the portable device, the signals being generated in response to the remote server, and the signals being transmitted on a second wireless frequency spectrum substantially different from the first wireless frequency spectrum, wherein

said step of relaying relays the information through the local area node in response to the signals transmitted by the wide area node.

20 10. The method according to claim 9 wherein said step of transmitting transmits signals within a first geographical area having a first size and said step of relaying relays the information in a second geographical area having a second size and further wherein the first size is at least ten times greater than the second size.

25 11. The method according to claim 9 wherein

the wireless interface between the local node and the portable device may not be established if the distance between the portable device and the local node is more than two hundred feet, and

the wireless interface between the wide-area node and the portable device may be  
5 established if the distance between the portable device and the local area node is more than two thousand feet.

12. The method according to claim 1 wherein

10 said step of transmitting signals transmits at least a portion of a message from the wide-area node to the portable device and further comprises the steps of:

presenting the message to a user of the portable device; and

receiving a user response signal from the user of the portable device in response to said step of presentation and further wherein

15 said step of relaying information relays the user response signal from the portable device to the remote terminal through the local area node.

13. The method according to claim 12 wherein the portion of the message includes a digitized signal,

20 said step of presenting further includes the step of converting the digitized voice signal to a signal perceptible by the user.

14. The method according to claim 12 wherein the portion of the message includes a digitized voice signal,

25 said step of presenting further includes the step of converting the digitized voice signal to an audio signal, and

said step of receiving receives an audio user response signal from the user and further comprises the steps of:

converting the audio response signal into a second digitized voice signal; and  
including the second digitized voice signal with the user response signal.

15. The method according to claim 10 wherein the local area node is a member of a plurality of local area nodes each having a corresponding plurality of non-identical areas and the portable device may be located in any one of the plurality of areas and said steps of sending and relaying may be performed with any member of the plurality of local area nodes when the portable device  
5 is located in the corresponding area.

16. The method according to claim 10 wherein the local area node is a member of a plurality of local area nodes each having a corresponding plurality of non-identical areas and the portable device may be located in any one of the plurality of areas wherein

10       said step of communicating terms data communicates at least a portion of the terms data from wide-area node to the portable device during said step of transmitting signals, the portion of the terms data includes a local identification signal for selectively identifying at least one of the plurality of local area nodes,

15       said step of sending an acceptance signal includes the step of determining if the local area node has a node identification signal corresponding to the local identification signal and generating an authorization signal in response thereto, and

20       said step of relaying is enabled only in response to the authorization signal.

17. A relay component of a two-way wireless communication system comprising:

25       a local area node for wirelessly relaying information between a portable device and an information server through a network; and

20       a relay sponsor server for establishing relay terms for the relaying of information wherein the relay terms require an act or omission not related to the relaying of information between the portable device and said local area node.

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18. The relay component according to claim 17 wherein the relay terms require a user of the portable device to view an advertisement or provide user profile information.

30       19. The relay component of claim 17 further comprised within a hybrid communication system wherein

said local area node has a first coverage area having a first size and the hybrid communication system further comprises

a wide area transmitter coupled to the information server and for wirelessly transmitting signals to the portable device in a second coverage area having a second size at least ten times greater than the first size, wherein relaying of information between the portable device and the local area node occurs in response to a reception of a signal by the portable device from the wide area transmitter.

20. A method of facilitating access to a remote server comprising the steps of:

10 transmitting a message signal from a wide area node to a portable device, the message signal being generated by a message server;

generating a reply message at the portable device in response to the message signal;

establishing a two-way wireless interface between the portable device and a local area node coupled to the remote message server in response to the message signal;

15 communicating an advertisement from the local area node to the portable device, the advertisement being substantially unrelated to interface information regarding the interface between the portable device and the local area node; and

relayng the reply message from the portable device to the message server through the local node area in response to communication of the advertisement.